

The first week in September saw *C. argiolus* still flying and on the 9th *Hesperia comma* L. lingered in reasonably good condition on a down not far from Winchester. Our garden at this time was regularly patronised by good numbers of *atalanta*, and one or two welcome *cardui* and *c-album* also graced the buddleias and michaelmas daisies.

Autumn is a rather melancholy time for the butterfly enthusiast, especially after a disappointing year, but planning for the next season has its own excitements, and one hopes, eventual rewards.

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OCURRENCE OF IMAGO OF *ORTHOSIA STABILIS* (D. & S.) IN MIDWINTER. — On the night of 17th/18th December, 1977, together with the usual midwinter species, a single specimen of *Orthosia stabilis* (Common Quaker) was caught in my m.v. trap at Ashurst, Hants. This species is normally on the wing in spring, and it is believed that the unusually mild weather of the early winter must have been responsible for this early emergence. — Dr. J. C. A. CRAIK, Department of Oceanography, The University, Southampton, SO9 5NH.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN FRITILLARY (*ARGYNNIS LATHONIA* L.) IN 1976. — Further to my article "A Tale of Two Seasons" in *The Entomologist's Record*, Vol. 90, No. 1:18-19, I have heard from Mr. Henry Lee of Oslo who has seen hundreds of this species, and comments "it was undoubtedly a Queen of Spain". He refers to the typical zig-zag low down flight. I have also heard from Mr. K. J. Willmott who thinks it very likely; he had the most remarkable experience of finding a male feeding on marjoram on 12th July, 1976, when the butterfly was in mint condition, but en route to the same site in Surrey on the 19th, he found the same butterfly (photographically proved), a little rubbed but otherwise intact, feeding on marjoram a quarter of a mile away from the original spot (see his note in *Ent. Rec.*, 88:333). — A. ARCHER-LOCK, 5 Windsor Villas, Lockyer Street, Plymouth, Devon, PL2 2QD.

*MYTHIMNA VITELLINA* HBN. (THE DELICATE) NEW TO BERKSHIRE. — I was interested to read Dr. Kettlewell's note on this species in Oxfordshire in the February issue (*Ent. Rec.*, 90:53). As he states his first *vitellina* came to his trap on 22nd October, I thought readers would care to know that I also found a perfect dark male in my own trap here (map ref. sheet 175,858826), on the night of 2nd/3rd October. I believe this to be the first Berkshire record and I am, here, only about three miles from the Oxon. border. Actually the moth was resting above the m.v. bulb in the dome of the pyrex rain protector. It would seem that the species must have been widespread across the two counties that night. — T. J. G. HOMER, St. Timothee, Pinkneys Green, Maidenhead, SL6 6PA.